

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 FRB-03

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /098 W

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R 251159Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4723

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION NATO

USEC BRUSSELS

US MISSION GENEVA 825

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1423

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, SP

SUBJECT: RECENT DEVELOPMENT RE PCE-DOMINATED WORKERS COMMISSIONS

SUMMARY SPANISH WORKERS COMMISSIONS (SWC) DOMINATED BY SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY (PCE), HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF TOLERANT ATMOSPHERE UNDER NEW GOVT TO SURFACE PUBLICLY. SWC HAVE ALSO BEEN INVOLVED IN DEBATE OVER FUTURE TRADE UNION STRATEGY, WHICH HAPPILY RESULTED IN THE EXPULSION FROM BOTH THE PCE AND SWC OF AN IMPORTANT CATALAN FACTION. END SUMMARY.

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1. IN BARCELONA 500 DELEGATES OF CATALAN SWC MET PUBLICLY AT

END JAN IN CHURCH HALL IN MEETING PRESIDED OVER BY CATALAN COMMUNIST SWC LEADER JOSE LUIS LOPEZ BULLA, WITH JOURNALISTS AND UNSPECIFIED ITALIAN TRADE UNION OBSERVERS PRESENT. AT MEETING CATALAN SWC APPEALED FOR: (A) "SYNDICAL RUPTURE" AND REJECTION ANY REFORMIST EFFORTS BY GOVT-CONTROLLED SPANISH SYNDICAL ORGANIZATION (SSO), (B) CONVOCAION OF CONSTITUENT CONGRESS OF ALL ILLEGAL TRADE UNION GROUPS TO DEBATE SPANISH TRADE UNION FUTURE; (C) LABOR UNITY, AND (D) RECOGNITION OF "INDISPENSABLE ROLE" FOR SWC.

2. IN MADRID NATIONAL SWC MADE IT FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE IN EARLY FEB HOLDING PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH IT PRESENTED A DOCUMENT SIGNED BY 101 SWC LEADERS. AT PRESS CONFERENCE SWC FOR FIRST TIME PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED ITS LEADERS, MANY OF WHOM WERE PRESENT INCLUDING FOUR TOP NATIONAL SWC LEADERS, ALL REPORTEDLY PCE MEMBERS, MARCELINO CAMACHO, JULIAN ARIZA, NICHOLAS SARTORIUS AND TRANQUILINO SANCHEZ. DESPITE OVERWHELMING PRESENCE OF PCE WORKERS LEADERS, A COUPLE OF NATIONAL LEADERS FORM NON-PCE COMPONENT GROUPS OF SWC WERE ALSO PRESENT AT PRESS CONFERENCE NOTABLY LUIS ROYP (PARTIDO DEL TRABAJO). POINTS MADE BY SWC LEADERS TO PRESS WERE SIMILAR TO THOSE MADE AT EARLIER BARCELONA SWC MEETINGS, WITH ADDITIONAL EMPHASIS (A) ON DENIAL WORKERS COMMISSIONS WERE TIED TO ANY PARTICULAR POLITICAL PARTY (B) ON CLAIM SWC REPRESENT ENTIRE SPANISH "WORKER MOVEMENT", (C) ON ASSERTION SWC NOT LIMITED TO LOOKING OUT FOR WORKERS ECONOMIC INTEREST BUT ALSO HAVE "DUTY TO" FIGHT FOR POLITICAL LIBERTIES AND AMNESTY; AND (D) ON STATEMENT SWC IS STRONG PARTISAN OF UNITARY, AUTONOMOUS, CALSS BASED/UNION STRUCTURE.

4. ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT SWC DEVELOPMENT AN IMPORTANT DEBATE OVER FUTURE TRADE UNION STRATEGY OF COMMUNIST PARTY AND SWC RESULTING IN EXPULSION OF EXPONENTS OF MINORITY VIEWPOINT. SWC AND PCE (AND LATTER'S CATALAN BRANCH, THE PSUC) HAVE SIMULTANEOUSLY FOLLOWED TWO DIFFERENT AND SOMEWHAT CONTRADICTORY POLICIES RE SPAIN'S TRADE UNION FUTURE, I.E. (A) REJECTION OF SSO AS "FASCIST CONTUNUIST" ORGANIZATION WHICH SHOULD BE DISMANTLED AND REPLACED BY A UNITARY TRADE UNION ORGANIZATION 'UNDER PCE DOMINATION, OF COURSE); AND (B) INFILTRATION OF SSO, THROUGH ELECTIONS TO SSQ POSITIONS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHER TACTICS, IN ORDER TO TAKE OVER SSO FROM WITHIN AND CONVERT IT INTO A SPANISH VERSION OF PORTUGUESE INTERSINDICAL (ALTHOUGH PCE AND SWC PUBLICLY DENY LATTER ASPIRATION). SWC AND PCE THUS KEEP BOTH OPTIONS OPEN. A BARCELONA FACTION, HOWEVER, RECENTLY ADVANCED THESIS THAT SWC MILIANTS WERE NOW WELL ENOUGH ENTRENCHED WITHIN SSO SO THAT SWC SHOULD BE DISBANDED AND AN ALL OUT EFFORT MADE FOR COMMUNISTS TO TAKE OVER SSO AS UNITARY SPANISH TRADE UNION. THIS PROVOKED VICIOUS DEBATE. PCE THESIS OF STILL

PURSING TRADITIONAL DOUBLE POLICY PREVAILED. WHEN DISSIDENT MINORITY MAINTAINED THEIR INSISTENCE SWC SHOULD BE DISBANDED, SOME 47 OF THEM, INCLUDING TOP CATALAN COMMUNISTS MOJTSERRAT FINA, ALBERT AVILES, ISIDORO BOSCH, AND (FNU) POJADES WERE EXPELLED FROM PARTY AND SWC.

5. COMMENT: (A) SWC HAS TAKEN OFF THE MASK AND GONE PUBLIC (B) PUBLIC REVELATION HAS CONFIRMED THAT SWC LEADERSHIP IS OVERWHELMINGLY COMMUNIST THOUGH SWC STILL PUBLICLY INSISTS IT IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANU POLITICAL PARTY AND DENIES PCE CONNECTIONS: (C) SWC WILL CONTINUE PURSE DOUBLE POLICY OF PROMOTING SCW AS OPPOSITION LABOR ORGANIZATION WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY CONTINUING INFILTRATE SSO, (D) EXPULSION OF VARIOUS BARCELONA COMMUNISTS INDICATES NO DISSENT WITHIN PCE (AND PSUC) WILL BE TOLERATED: (E) EMPHASIS ON ANY FUTURE TRADE UNION ORGANIZATION WILL BE ON LABOR "UNITY"WHICH UNITY WILL PRIMARILY BENEFIT PCE AND SWC: (F) MOST INFLUENTIAL SWC WORKER LEADER TODAY IS 58 YEAR OLD MARCELINO CAMACHO BUT TOP SWC LEADER OF FUTURE APPEARS TO BE 40 YEAR OLD JULIAN ARIZA, AND (G) SWC WANTS TO BRING NON-COMMUNIST WORKER AND POLITICAL GROUPS INTO GREATER COLLABORATION WITH IT,BOTH THROUGH PCE MANIPULATED "JUNTA DEMOCRATICA" (TO WHICH SWC BELONGS) AT POLITICAL LEVEL, AND THROUGH EXPANDED "UNITY OF ACTION" TACTICS WITH DEMOCRATIC ILLEGAL LABOR GROUPS AT TRADE UNION LEVEL.
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